

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A subject-specific search engine utilizes a smart web crawler and includes a capability of filtering out sites not relevant to the particular subject. As the smart crawler traverses the Internet, sites are filtered, and only sites found relevant are indexed and stored in a database for later searching. Sites may be filtered an arbitrary number of times for relevance, and such

- 5 filtering may, for example, comprise automated, lexicon-based filtering; manual filtering, using a human editor; or both.